

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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CEQ-01 EPA-01 /114 W

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R 221513Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2906

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID 300

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USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

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DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

CSAF WASHDC//AFINA/SSA//

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CNO WASHDC//OP-614//

DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII//
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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, CSCE, XA, XF
SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS SUMMARY - APRIL 22

FOR POLADS
USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

1. SUMMARY:

-- COVERAGE OF U.S. SLACKENS SOMEWHAT BUT REMAINS NEGATIVE.
FOCUS IS ON ALLEGED EVIL DEEDS OF CIA AND FBI;

-- YURIY ZHUKOV WRITES A MAJOR COMMENTARY ON CSCE;

-- COVERAGE OF SECRETARY'S TRIP TO AFRICA CONTINUES NEGATIVE BUT
LOW-KEY;

-- LIGHT MIDDLE EAST COVERAGE INCLUDES DIGS BY NASSER'S DAUGHTER
AT PRESENT EGYPTIAN LEADERSHIP;

-- VISIT BY LAOTIAN PM KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN REMAINS FRONT-PAGE NEWS;

-- SPANISH AUTHORITIES ARE ACCUSED OF RETAINING FRANCO'S METHODS,
AND PRAVDA ACKNOWLEDGES THAT PCP FACING ROUGH WEATHER IN APRIL
25 PORTUGUESE ELECTIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. - RELATIVELY LIGHT COVERAGE REMAINS ESSENTIALLY NEGATIVE.
IZVESTIYA APRIL 21 CARRIES A LENGTHY ARTICLE BY AMERICAN COMMUNIST
JOSEPH NORTH ON THE COMPARATIVE MERITS OF LIFE IN MOSCOW AND NEW
YORK; NOT SURPRISINGLY, BAGHDAD ON THE MOSCOW WINS HANDS DOWN.
IZVESTIYA CARRIES ACCOMPANYING STORIES AND CARTOONS HIGHLIGHTING
VARIOUS NEFARIOUS MACHINATIONS BY THE CIA AND FBI; THE GENERAL
THRUST STRESSES THE THREAT TO CIVIL LIBERTIES THESE ORGANIZATIONS
OSTENSIBLY REPRESENT.

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3. CSCE - PRAVDA'S YURIY ZHUKOV EMPHASIZES IN THAT PAPER'S
MAIN FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMENTARY THAT THE FINAL ACT REPRESENTS
BINDING OBLIGATIONS--A CONTENTION WHICH HE SAYS STATEMENTS BY
EUROPEAN AND U.S. HEADS OF STATE CONFIRMED IN HELSINKI. HE
ASSERTS THAT THOUGH THERE ARE FORCES ATTEMPTING TO DISTURB THE
FINAL ACT'S "BALANCE OF INTERESTS", ITS AGREEMENTS HAVE ALREADY
LED TO SUBSTANTIAL RESULTS. POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN

SIGNATORY STATES ARE BEING SUCCESSFULLY CARRIED OUT ON A BILATERAL BASIS, HE CLAIMS, THOUGH HE SPEAKS OF MILITARY DETENTE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN TERMS WHICH SUGGEST THAT MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE IN THOSE AREAS. HE PORTRAYS IN FAVORABLE COLORS THE CONSIDERATION OF BREZHNEV'S PROPOSALS FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCES ON ENERGY, TRANSPORT, AND ENVIRONMENT. ON EXCHANGES OF IDEAS, INFORMATION, AND PEOPLE, HOWEVER, HE ASSERTS THAT THE WEST IS FALLING BEHIND ITS OBLIGATIONS: "THE PRACTICE OF PAST MONTHS HAS CONVINCINGLY PROVEN THAT THE SOCIALIST STATES ARE FULFILLING THE HELSINKI AGREEMENTS (ON SUCH ISSUES) MUCH MORE EFFECTIVELY THAN THE WESTERN STATES..." HE SAYS THAT REPORTED INTENTION BY CONGRESS TO SET UP A WATCHDOG COMMITTEE TO MONITOR THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE USSR IS AN AMAZING EXAMPLE OF HOW "THESE GENTLEMEN" TAKE UPON THEMSELVES THE RIGHT TO BE PROTECTORS OF OTHER COUNTRIES' CITIZENS, AND LECTURES THAT ONE OF THE MAIN LESSONS OF CSCE IS THAT NO NATION SHOULD ATTEMPT TO DICTATE OTHERS HOW TO RUN ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS. COMMENT: ZHUKOV'S LINE IS FAIRLY STANDARD, BUT THE TIMING OF THE ARTICLE--ON THE EVE OF GROMYKO'S VISIT TO FRANCE--MAY BE A NEW EFFORT TO DEFEND THE SOVIET CSCE RECORD AGAINST EXPECTED FRENCH PRESSURE. CSCE WAS AFTER ALL THE ISSUE WHICH CAUSED THE LAST HIGH-LEVEL SOVIET-FRENCH DISCUSSIONS--THE GISCARD/BREZHNEV MEETING LAST FALL--TO GO A BIT SOUR. END COMMENT.

4. AFRICA. IZVESTIYA CARRIES A BRIEF "PRESS SERVICE" REPORT WHICH REITERATES THE CLAIM THAT THE SECRETARY'S VISIT IS DESIGNED TO WORK OUT "A NEW" AFRICAN POLICY IN LIGHT OF THE DIFFICULT CONDITIONS OF THE "LAST RACIST REGIMES ON THE CONTINENT". ACCORDING TO IZVESTIYA, THE U.S. IS FACED WITH A DILEMMA: HOW TO RETAIN THE FORMER RELATIONSHIP WITH SOUTH AFRICA, WHILE "PLAYING A ROLE" AS A FRIEND OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLE. IN THIS REGARD, IZVESTIYA CLAIMS THAT U.S. ECONOMIC INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA AMOUNTS TO \$1.6 BILLION. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY CITING THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WALL STREET JOURNAL AS SAYING "IN THE OPINION OF MANY AFRICANS", U.S. POLICY LIES SOMEWHERE BETWEEN "AMBIGUITY AND DISHONOR".

5. MIDDLE EAST. CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES EXCERPTS FROM A JORDANIAN NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW WITH NASSER'S DAUGHTER; HER CHOSEN REMARKS ARE PREDICTABLY CRITICAL OF PRESENT LEADERSHIP IN CAIRO. CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES REPORT FROM BEIRUT WHICH STRESSES FACT THAT PRESIDENT FRANJIH HAS NOT YET SIGNED APRIL 10 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT, THUS "SABOTAGING" ANY FORWARD MOVEMENT TOWARD A SETTLEMENT. THE REPORT CLAIMS JUMBLATT DECLARED THAT "ALL MANEUVERS BY THE RIGHTIST" PLAY INTO THE HANDS OF LEBANON'S ENEMIES, ABOVE ALL "ISRAELI EXTREMISTS." PRAVDAY CARRIES A TASS REPORT FROM AMMAN THAT DEMONSTRATIONS IN THE WEST BANK ARE GROWING, RESULTING IN INCREASED "REPRESSION" ON THE PART OF THE OCCUPATION AUTHORITIES.

6. LAOS. COVERAGE OF THE VISIT BY PM KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN REMAINS HEAVY. CENTRAL PRESS FRONTPAGES ARTICLES AND PHOTOS REPORTING THE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS.

7. IBERIA. CENTRAL PRESS CARRIES A BRIEF TASS REPORT THAT A MADRID COURT SENTENCED A GROUP OF BASQUE "NATIONALISTS" TO PRISON FOR FROM THREE TO FIVE YEARS. AN ACCOMPANYING REPORT IN IZVESTIYA CLAIMS THAT "FOREIGN OBSERVERS IN MADRID" STATE THE SPANISH POLICE ARE USING THE SAME TACTICS AS WERE EMPLOYED UNDER FRANCO. PRAVDA CARRIES A TASS REPORT FROM LISBON THAT DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED BY THE PCP IN THE CURRENT ELECTIONS.
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